IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 1651

DATE OF DEPOSIT: January 🔏 , 2002

TYPED OR PRINTED NAME: Brenda Carpenter

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

"EXPRESS MAIL" MAILING LABEL NUMBER: EL 767783119 US

HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER OR FEE IS BEING

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ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C.

Examiner: S. Coe

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Serial No.: Not yet assigned ...

Filed: Herewith

Atty. File No.: 4018-1-CON-1

For: "PRODUCT AND METHOD FOR TREATING JOINT DISORDERS IN VERTEBRATES"

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to the initial review of the above-identified patent application by the Examiner, please enter the following Preliminary Amendment. Although Applicants do not believe that any fees are due based upon the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge any such fees to Deposit Account 19-1970.

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, line 6, please delete the first paragraph and replace it with the following rewritten paragraph:

The present application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial prow U.S. Patent Number 6,344, 220
No. 09 341,000 filed June 28, 1999, which is a continuation from U.S. Patent No.

W/ 103